



General Assembly

February Session, 2012

Raised Bill No. 99

LCO No. 820

00820_____JUD

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT CONCERNING LETTERS OF PROTECTION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2012*) Any physician licensed
2 under chapter 370 of the general statutes and any physical therapist
3 licensed under chapter 376 of the general statutes shall, during the
4 consultation period with a patient who has suffered a personal injury
5 and prior to any treatment of such patient, disclose to such patient in
6 writing: (1) Whether such physician or physical therapist would
7 provide services to such patient on the basis of a letter of protection
8 issued by an attorney representing the patient in a personal injury
9 action, which letter promises that any bill for services rendered by
10 such physician or physical therapist to such patient will be paid from
11 the proceeds of any recovery the patient receives from a settlement or
12 judgment in such action or, if there is no recovery or the recovery is
13 insufficient to pay such bill, that such bill will be paid by such patient;
14 and (2) the estimated cost of providing to the patient or an attorney
15 representing the patient in a personal injury action an opinion letter
16 concerning the cause of the personal injury and the diagnosis,
17 treatment and prognosis of the patient, including a disability rating.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
---	--	--

Section 1	October 1, 2012	New section
-----------	-----------------	-------------

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) require physicians and physical therapists to inform a patient whether they would provide care and treatment to such patient in return for a letter of protection guaranteeing payment from any settlement or judgment that may be received by the patient; and (2) require physicians and physical therapists to provide a patient with the estimated cost of obtaining an opinion letter that may be used by such patient in a personal injury action.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]